

HEAD SLIDER AND DISK DRIVE UNIT EMPLOYING THE SAME

5

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 There is provided a head slider for reducing a  
sticking force or stiction between the head slider and a  
disk in a disk drive unit in which a difference in level  
between an air bearing and a head portion is small when  
the disk rotates in a reverse direction. Air bearing  
portions having flat top surfaces are formed in parallel  
with each other on both sides of a side of a slider which  
15 flies above the disk at an air outflow end of the slider.  
A head portion comprising head elements and a protection  
film for protecting the head elements is provided at an  
air outflow end of one of the air bearing portions, while  
a dummy head portion comprising only a protection film is  
20 provided at an air outflow end of the other air bearing  
portion. Top surfaces of the head portion and the dummy  
head portion are formed lower by a step than top surfaces  
of the air bearing portions. The top surfaces of the  
head portion and the dummy head portion on the air  
25 outflow ends are formed lower than the top surfaces  
thereof adjacent to the air bearing portions, whereby the  
contact resistance between the head slider and the disk  
resulting when the disk rotates in the reverse direction  
is reduced.